

## July Website Message:

Dear Tolleson Union High School District Community,

**CONGRATULATIONS to our Summer School Graduates!** We had 152 dedicated students graduate on June 29<sup>th</sup>. We are so very proud of these seniors that did it with Pride and stayed focused to complete their high school education. Thank you to their parents/guardians, teachers, staff, as well as friends and family that supported them along the way. They are now ready to move onto the next chapter of their lives of college, career, and life. We wish them everything good in life and much success!

As we hit the middle of Summer, our June Summer School sessions are completed. We want to thank the students who made the decision to give up part of their Summer vacation to attend classes to either catch up or get ahead in preparation for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. We had 4,305 students registered for the Summer programs. We also want to thank the teachers and staff who stepped up and taught Summer School so that our students could continue their learning. We truly appreciate you all.

The learning doesn't stop there. We are offering July Summer School at both La Joya Community High School and online through Tolleson Virtual High School from July 1<sup>st</sup> through July 16<sup>th</sup>. This Summer session will provide current TUHSD students the opportunity to obtain high school credit. The classes are free, students must register online through [Tolleson Virtual High School](#).

In the meantime, as we get ready for the start of school in August, I want to share some of our good news over the past several weeks. Congratulations to TUHSD Governing Board Vice President, Mr. Freddie Villalon, who recently received the Arizona Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (AZALAS) award and recognition as the Outstanding Governing Board member of the year. Mr. Villalon has been on the TUHSD Governing Board for over 20 years, making decisions that positively affect the students in our district.

In addition, TUHSD's Business Services Department, under the direction of Mr. Jeremy Calles, Chief Financial Officer, was recently notified that it had received a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Association of School Business Officials International. The recognition was for the district's FY2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

We have a National Merit Scholar from University High School! Rook W. Bowman from U-High is looking at attending ASU in the Fall, focusing on ecology as a major. All winners of Merit Scholarship awards are chosen from the Finalist group based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishments. A variety of information is available for evaluation including the Finalist's academic record, information about the school's curriculum and grading system, the high school official's written recommendation, information about the student's activities and leadership, and the Finalist's own essay. About 1.6 million students in some 22,000 high schools enter the National Merit Scholarship competition annually when they take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Congratulations to Rook and U-High.

We are happy to announce that a former Westview student has become one of the newest Second Lieutenant's in the Army. Adrian Ledesma graduated recently from West Point Military Academy. Francisco J. Cardoza, Captain and Senior Marine Instructor for Westview High School's MCJROTC, stated that Adrian "has definitely represented Westview in an outstanding manner and demonstrated the values of Pride, Performance, and Perseverance." Congratulations to Adrian.

TUHSD is committed to preparing and providing the best education possible for our students. We look forward to serving you this coming school year with our continued focus on student academic achievement!

### Mark your Calendar:

- **August 3 – First Day of School for Freshmen only**
- **August 4 – First Day of School for ALL students**
- **August 19 – TUHSD Parent Night**

As always, please keep checking our website ([www.tuhsd.org](http://www.tuhsd.org)) and our social media pages to see all of this year's graduation photos ([facebook.com/TUHSD/](https://facebook.com/TUHSD/) and [@TollesonUhsd](https://twitter.com/TollesonUhsd)).

Be safe and stay Tolleson Strong!

Sincerely,

Nora Gutierrez  
Superintendent